

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE INCENTIVES AND LAWS



The District of Columbia is the proud home of the Washington, D.C. Clean Cities Coalition.

Overview

Washington, D.C. has approved several incentives for alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) in the Clean Fuel Fleet Vehicle Program established by the Alternative Fuels Incentives Amendment Act of 1994. However, the D.C. Government has not yet implemented this law and is unlikely to act on this initiative in the near future.

State Incentives

The Clean Fuel Fleet Vehicle Program has not been implemented by the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs; however, the provisions of the program are:

- Income tax credits for AFVs and certain fueling property
- Motor fuel exception for AFVs
- Preferential parking and loading use of District-owned parking lots, and curbside parking spaces for covered fleets using AFVs
- Requirement that the District purchase qualified second-market vehicles to help establish a long-term viable market for AFVs
- Creation of a fund by the District to ensure competitive resale value of used AFVs.

For more information on the status of the provisions above, contact George Nichols, Clean Cities Coordinator, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, at (202) 962-3355; or Charles Clinton, District of Columbia Energy Office, at (202) 673-6710.

Utilities/Private Incentives

Potomac Electric Power Company has experimental electric vehicle (EV) rates of 2.717¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh) in the summer and 2.627¢ per kWh in the winter. The maximum is 200 kWh per month at these rates. For additional information, contact Brad Johnson at (202) 872-3561.

Washington Gas provides a number of incentives to encourage the use of natural gas vehicles (NGVs), including joint efforts with federal, state and local governments as well as commercial fleets to build compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling stations. In addition, the utility offers a customer service program which provides technical expertise and driver and technician training. For additional information, contact Steve Clausman at (703) 750-5957.

Laws & Regulations

On December 27, 1990, the District of Columbia enacted the Alternative Fuels Act of 1990 to integrate alternative fuel technology, including participation by the government fleet, commercial transportation fleets, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. On January 4, 1993, the Act was amended to extend the provisions for two years beyond the Act's requirements.

Once the Alternative Fuel Act goes into effect, on October 1 of each year, each owner and operator of a commercial fleet will be required to submit plans to the mayor containing specific goals and timetables for implementation of a clean fuels program. The rule will provide for fines of \$5,000/day for non-compliance.

Beginning in 1998, no commercial vehicle shall be operated within the Central Employment Area (as defined by the District of Columbia Zoning Regulations) between sunrise and sunset during the period between May 1 and September 15, unless that vehicle is powered by a clean alternative fuel.

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Laws & Regulations (cont.)

The owner or operator of a fleet must use, through conversion of existing vehicles or procurement of retrofitted vehicles or new original equipment manufacturer (OEM) vehicles, a proportional number of motor vehicles powered by clean alternative fuels equal to no less than the following percentages of the entire operational commercial fleet, both public and private:

<u>Percent of AFVs in Fleet</u>	<u>Deadline for Conversions/AFV Purchases</u>
5%	January 1, 1995
10%	January 1, 1996
15%	January 1, 1997
20%	January 1, 1998
25%	January 1, 1999
30%	January 1, 2000
35%	January 1, 2001
40%	January 1, 2002

Points of Contact

Washington, D.C. Clean Cities Coordinator

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District of Columbia Energy Office

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Potomac Electric Power Company

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Washington Gas

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Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Ron Kirby (202) 962-3200

Washington, D.C. Transportation Contact

Department of Public Works,
Office of Policy and Planning
Art Lawson (202) 939-8012

U.S. Department of Energy

Regional Support Office

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U.S. Department of Transportation Contacts

Federal Highway Administration

Region 3
Mario Jorquera (410) 962-3744

Federal Transit Administration

Region 3
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General Services Administration

Regional Fleet Manager

Region 11
John Smith (202) 755-0292

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Regional Pollution Prevention Coordinators

Region 3
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